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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 20 | Humidity 64% Cloudy Sensex 81,510 | Nifty 24,610 | Gold 77,844 | Silver 95,020 | Dollar 84.88 | Euro 89.35 | GBP 108.29

NEW DAY, NEW CON

All you need to know about the 'jumped deposit' scam that targets UPI users but were afraid to ask

PAGE 5

FAREWELL, PIONEER

State to observe 3-day mourning period to pay respects to its former CM, who shaped India's Silicon Valley

PAGE 7

In sudden change of plan without consultation, age-old arches on Platform 1 of Cantonment Railway Station demolished during upgradation work

ARC OF HISTORY TURNS INTO DEBRIS

Locals wonder if discussions could have helped preserve historic building

| Sridhar.Vivan
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Even as Bengaluru is losing many heritage structures in private properties in the name of development, the latest casualty is the 'historic' building in the Cantonment railway station. As part of the ongoing development of the Cantonment Railway Station, the age-old arches located at Platform 1 have been demolished.

According to the initial plan, the station, which boasts a rich 162-year history, would have preserved these iconic arches even as its other facilities were upgraded. However, with their demolition, new plans are underway for the station. Some locals have raised concerns that no public consultation was conducted before bringing down the historic structure.

Bengaluru's Cantonment Railway Station holds the distinction of being the city's first railway station, but this piece of history is now largely lost with the removal of the original building. Local residents

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

"Spending large sums of money to build the station will not benefit railway passengers much. Instead, expanding the railway tracks would better serve the public

— Rajkumar Dugar, railway activist

Paint the town green

If you know of a vacant site suitable for tree plantation, you can let BBMP know on its Tree Census Dashboard

| Garima Prasher
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Bengalureans will soon be able to raise online requests with Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for greening their areas.

The forest department of BBMP had decided to give this choice to the citizens through its Tree Census Dashboard. All that citizens need to do is identify a suitable vacant site in their locality and raise a request online by sharing the location of the vacant plot.

BBMP will follow up with sapling plantations of species of citizens' choice.

"The initiative is based on feedback and suggestions we received from citizens. Once the location of a site is uploaded by locals with suggestions on species to be planted, we will summon our contractors to take it up and plant saplings. The idea is to keep citizens involved in the process of greening the city," said BLG Swamy, deputy conservator of forest, BBMP.

The option to raise this request on BBMP's dashboard will be active in two weeks from now.

"Although BBMP can go around the city and identify vacant sites for plantation, sometimes residents in the area oppose this as the site might be used for other purposes such as a parking space. However, if the request comes from the citizens,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 >>

THINGS TO DO

01 Musical tribute

Magnetic Music Season 03 with Kishan Baalaji Collective (KBC) and Moksha—All Stars, two incredible bands that will perform tributes to the likes of all-time greats like The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Bon Jovi, Queen, and Coldplay, among other timeless favourites.
Where: ZLB23, The Leela Palace, Old Airport Road
When: December 13 to 19, 8 pm onwards

02 Contemporary drama

"Kone Galige" is a story about the power of human connection, even in the darkest of places. The play revolves around the last few minutes of Hariprasad, who is awaiting his death sentence in an isolated prison.
Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar
When: December 13, 7:30 pm

03 Read it all

A reading session and book discussion on J Krishnamurti's 'You Are the World.' Rajan Chandy, a teacher at Rishi Valley School, will be in conversation with TM Veeraraghav, Executive Editor at NDTV.
Where: Champaca Bookstore
When: December 15, 11:30 am

04 Groovy beats

Third Edition of Road to Lollapalooza India 2025 at Social with DJ Paypal (USA, Hyperdub / Teklife), The Untitled One, High Rez (UK), BLU (UK), DHP (Live), XS, HEDZ, ADI G & Stinger.
Where: Koramangala Social
When: December 15, 1 pm

05 Dive into literature

Bangalore Literature Festival 24 is back. The two-day event will feature a host of authors and speakers, including novelists and fiction writers, historians, biographers, poets, changemakers, diplomats, performers, and others. 13th Edition of the Bangalore Literature Festival.
Where: Hotel LaLiT Ashok, Bengaluru
When: December 14-15, 9 am onwards

See that? It was foggy weather with low visibility in the city and on Bangalore-Chennai Expressway in the early hours on Tuesday

HydraFacial: What's this instant glow everyone's talking about?

City dermatologists explain know-how behind trending treatment & its efficacy

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In the age of many beauty hacks circulating on social media platforms, HydraFacial has emerged as a coveted skincare treatment, celebrated for its instant glow and long-lasting hydration. What was once an elite spa indulgence has now become a viral trend, largely fuelled by influencers and social media platforms showcasing glowing "before-and-after" results.

Many dermatologists or skin care experts in Bengaluru as well have observed a growing demand. Videos showcasing the relaxing process, combined with dramatic transformations on social media, have made HydraFacials an aspirational choice for millennials and Gen Z.

Dr Neelima Sharma, Dermatologist, Manipal Hospital, Jayanagar said, "People today are always on the lookout for instant results and convenience. Women love that HydraFacials deliver glowing, hydrated skin immediately with no downtime. Plus, the treatment can be tailored to different skin issues like hydration, exfoliation, acne, aging, etc. Social media has also played a big role; when influencers and celebrities show off their glowing skin after a HydraFacial, it creates a major buzz."

NOW TRENDING

3-step process

HydraFacials are designed to rejuvenate the skin through a non-invasive, three-step process—deep cleansing, gentle exfoliation, and intense hydration—using a vortex-like suction technology. This treatment not only removes impurities but also infuses the skin with nourishing serums.

Dr Veena Abraham, Consultant Dermatologist, Abrahams

Skin & Hair Clinic said, "HydraFacial is a good non-invasive treatment for dry skin, fine lines and for rejuvenation. However, it cannot replace good nutrition, regular exercise and adequate sleep. Lasers, peels, fillers, and energy-based devices are all important therapy techniques. For pollution-related changes, aging, and as a maintenance procedure, HydraFacials are picking up."

She noted that patient awareness is huge nowadays. "People ask about treatments that are trending and being discussed. Social media tends to play a role, but doctors do guide their patients about trends that work and those that are just hype."

Efficacy & caution

Speaking about the efficacy of HydraFacials, Dr Sharma said that the published data on their efficacy for acne, pigmentation, aging is limited. A few studies have shown that it is beneficial in these conditions; however, the results also depend on proper patient selection, hygiene, technique, type of serum used and if any other procedure/care has been used along with HydraFacial.

"In fact, it is often projected that anybody can get HydraFacial and there are no side effects; this is not true. In the last week, I have seen a couple of patients who underwent HydraFacials and had a severe flare-up of acne. It is called "purging," and if not treated properly, it could result in permanent scars," she added.

PAGE 6

Rise in number of maternal deaths causes alarm

ಶ್ರೀ ಪಟ್ಟಾಭಿರಾಮ ಸೇವಾ ಮಂಡಲಿ(ರಿ)
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ಸರ್ವ ಸದಸ್ಯರ ಸಭೆ
ಈ ಮಂಡಳಿಯು ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಸರ್ವಸದಸ್ಯರ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು **(AGM) ದಿನಾಂಕ:15-12-2024** ನೇ ಭಾನುವಾರ **ಸಂಜೆ 3.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** ನಡೆಸಲು ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ದಯಮಾಡಿ ಸಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದು ಸಹಕರಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿ ವಿನಂತಿ. ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಸದಸ್ಯರೂ ಐ.ಡಿ.ಕಾರ್ಡನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪದೆ ತರುವುದು.
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ಸ್ಥಳ : ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು
ತಾರೀಖು : 03-11-2024
ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 080 - 41673605 | ಮೊಬೈಲ್ : 63646 69906

Leading with agility for sustainability

AIMS Institutes, Bengaluru, in collaboration with the Global Emerging Leadership Programs (GELP), Canada, organised the International Conference on "Agile Leadership and Sustainable Development Strategies in the SDG Era (AL&SDS)." The event highlighted the importance of international collaboration in addressing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with key remarks from Dr Priyanandan Reddy, CEO of AIMS Institutes; Dr Omar Karim, Founder of GELP; and Dr Roja Reddy, Executive Director and Principal of AIMS Institutes.

The conference featured expert panel discussions on "21st Century Leadership: Thriving in a Globalised World," bringing together perspectives on leadership in an interconnected global context. Workshops and presentations focused on leadership strategies, youth empowerment, mental health, and artificial intelligence, providing practical knowledge and skill-building opportunities. Faculty and student researchers also contributed by presenting papers on sustainability and leadership, adding valuable insights to the discussions. A significant highlight of the event was the signing of two MoUs between AIMS Institutes and GELP. Additionally, the GELP LinkedIn Challenge encouraged students to enhance their professional branding and leadership skills. Dr Narayanaswamy Thangavel of Reva University was recognised for his role as an evaluator at the conference. Faculty members of AIMS were recognised by the SUNFO Global Federation for their contributions to sustainable development.

Key dignitaries at the Intnl Conference on Agile Leadership & Sustainability

Just pay to get a degree of deception

Student goes to cops after distant education academy makes him an offer he cannot but refuse

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Earning a degree or completing a course traditionally requires years of hard work and dedication. However, today, it seems as simple as making a purchase, paying a certain amount, and a degree certificate is yours. This alarming trend raises questions about the very purpose of education and the integrity of academic achievements.

In a recent case filed with the Central Crime Branch (CCB), a complainant, Mohan (name changed), reported how a distance education academy shocked him with an unethical offer.

While inquiring about admission options for his nephew, Mohan was told he could skip the entire process of attending classes or taking exams. Instead, he could pay a fee and get a legitimate-looking certificate within a short period. The incident underscores the growing prevalence of fake degree rackets and the urgent need to address this systemic fraud.

Get degree without studying

According to the complaint, the issue began when the complainant searched online for educational institutions and came across Mercury Academy Distance Education in Banashankari. Upon contacting, the academy's representative, identified as Manish, spoke to the complainant via phone, and then the complainant was invited to visit their office.

During a meeting, Manish proposed an unethical scheme, offering SSLC, PUC, and degree certificates from reputed universities, including Global University, Amma University, and Jain University, without requiring attendance, examinations, or proper admission. Manish assured the complainant that the certificates could be delivered within a month for Rs 2 lakh. Manish also showed a sample SSLC marks card and requested an advance payment of Rs 10,000 via Google Pay for registration.

Disturbed by the obvious fraud, the complainant later lodged a formal complaint under CCB, urging authorities to take action against Manish and his associates for fabricating fake certificates and defrauding individuals.

Not one case, but whole market exists

This incident highlights the growing menace of fake degree rackets that not only undermine the credibility of the education system but also pose serious risks to the professional and academic integrity of individuals relying on such forged certificates.

A similar case was earlier registered in the month of November under the CCB by the journalist who conducted a sting operation and helped the officials bust a fake degree racket. Investigations revealed that the accused was selling educational certificates for degrees including B Tech, B Pharm, and even LLB from colleges across the city.

"Such activities put both career and future at risk," an educationist says. Many educationists state that such instances have existed for a while, but now they have escalated to a disturbing level, which is unethical, immoral, and illegal.

"Just yesterday, I received a query on my YouTube channel about the validity of a degree offered by a certain university. I advise everyone to verify courses and universities on the UGC website, which displays permitted programmes and institutions, including those offering distance education. Students must understand that obtaining a fake certificate is not only illegal but also a punishable offense. Institutions and officials should take strict legal action, and students should realise that shortcuts will never work," said educationist V Pradeep Kumar while speaking to BM.

Lokayukta raids on 10 govt officers' properties

Karnataka Lokayukta Police conducted extensive search operations across the state on Tuesday morning in response to complaints regarding disproportionate assets linked to 10 government officers. The searches, which took place at over 50 places, including residences, offices, and the homes of the officers' relatives, spanned Bengaluru City, Bengaluru Rural, Gadag, Kalaburagi, Raichuru, and Chitradurga.

These actions revealed significant findings, uncovering assets far exceeding the officers' known incomes. The total value of assets found across the 10 individuals amounted to over Rs 485 crore.

In Bengaluru alone, officials such as Lokesh Babu, a Superintendent Engineer at BESCOM in Bengaluru, whose assets totaled Rs 6.7 crore, including immovable properties valued at Rs 3.57 crore, cash and jewellery worth Rs 1.25 crore, and vehicles and other assets amounting to Rs 3.13 crore.

Another prominent figure, SG Suresh, a Revenue Inspector in Bengaluru, had assets worth Rs 1.83 crore, including agricultural land, properties, cash, ornaments, and vehicles. Similarly, Dr MC Sunil Kumar, the District Health Officer in Bengaluru Rural, was found with assets valued at Rs 6.64 crore, including multiple properties, jewellery, and a significant bank balance.

Other officers, such as Kishnappa (Tax Inspector in Bengaluru), Ekesh Babu (Deputy Secretary in the Higher Education Department), and Nanjundaiah (Deputy Superintendent of Police in Channapatna), were also found to possess assets totaling millions. Nanjundaiah's assets alone were valued at Rs 12.53 crore, with findings including immovable assets, vehicles, and gold. **BMB**

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Festival aftermath: Calls to restore Herohalli Lake

Despite assurances from BBMP, locals still reeling under stench from lake filled with silt, chemicals

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Residents of Syndicate Bank Colony, Tunganagar and surrounding areas have been finding it tough to cope with bad odour emanating from Herohalli Lake and the idol immersion pond when they walk in the morning and evening. They said the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Lakes Department and Herohalli ward engineer have failed to clean the idol immersion pond, which is filled with silt and chemicals.

"The BBMP authorities are supposed to clean the immersion pond as soon as the immersion of Ganesh idols but they failed to clean it thus causing a lot of inconvenience to the residents who visit the lake for a walk," said Ramakrishna Bhat, a resident of Tunganagar.

Ramakrishna Bhat said the lake was in good condition till last year and its condition became worse this year. "We have complained to the authorities but nothing has been done to date. They kept on assuring us to clean the lake but did nothing," he said.

Stating that ward committee meetings that were being held before State Assembly elections were a great help to mitigate infrastructure-related problems, Raghuchandra Shetty, president, of Syndicate Bank Colony Residents' Welfare Association, said the condition of Herohalli Lake has become worse in the recent months and the authorities have been promising to fix the issue but failed to do it. "It was easy for the residents to bring civic issues such as water, garbage, lakes and street light issues during the ward committee meetings. Now, there is no one to look into civic issues. It will benefit a lot of people, especially those residing in the vicinity of the lake if the BBMP authorities keep the water body free from all types of pollution. Bad odour emanating from the lake and idol immersion pond is difficult to cope with," said Raghuchandra Shetty.

Demanding the BBMP authorities to keep the waterbody clean, Shobha Bhat, an environmental activist, said that she felt bad when she saw workers removing garbage from the lake. "I want the BBMP authorities to ensure the lake is free from pollution. It is unclear why the BBMP authorities delayed cleaning the idol immersion pond two months after the Ganesha festival was celebrated. It is disturbing and an eyesore to see Ganesha idols floating in the pond in such a condition," she said.

Meanwhile, BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer Ramesh, who is also the nodal officer for the Herohalli ward, said that cleaning of the lake and idol immersion pond has begun and that the work will be completed within a few days.

Poor condition of idol immersion pond at Herohalli Lake

> **"It is unclear why the BBMP authorities delayed cleaning idol immersion pond two months after festival was celebrated. It is an eyesore to see the pond** –Shobha Bhat, activist

Citizens seek better last-mile connectivity

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Residents of Lakshmi Devi Nagar in Ward 69 are urging the BMTC (Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation) and the state government to start new bus routes to improve last-mile connectivity in their area. The proposed routes would connect Lakshmi Devi Nagar to major transport hubs like Yeshwanthpur TTMC, Mysore Road Satellite Bus Stand, and Sultan Palya Bus Stand via Yeshwanthpur.

Currently, the bus stand in front of the Karnataka Public School, which is expected to open in the academic year 2025-26, is underutilised. Previously, the 98E-KBS and 77A-KR Market routes operated from 5:45 am to 10:30 pm. However, for the past few years, no buses have been running from this stand.

The residents have submitted petitions at the office of Deputy Chief Minister, DK Shivakumar and the Chief Secretary's office along with the BMTC officials. They pointed out that there are around 2,500 flats built by the Karnataka State Slum Eradication Board near this bus stand, housing mostly BPL card holders, daily wage earners, and market workers. The residents are facing significant difficulties due to the lack of accessible transport options. "In 2018, the BDA (Bangalore Development Authority) built a flyover near Cooli Nagar to connect Lakshmi Devi Nagar with Nandini Layout, but the Lakshmi Devi Nagar bus stand remains the last one in the area. This has led locals to demand better connectivity, particularly for reaching the metro and other transport hubs. Now the Lakshmi Devi Nagar BMTC bus stand has become a parking place for cab drivers," said Santosh Kumar N, a resident of Lakshmi Devi Nagar.

Locals demand BMTC metro freeder

Another resident Suresh pointed out the importance of the new routes, saying, "Lakshmi Devi Nagar BBMP Ward 69 is the last bus stop in this locality, and we residents are demanding BMTC to start a metro feeder from Lakshmi Devi Nagar to Yeshwanthpur TTMC via Nandini Layout, Mahalaxmi Metro, Soap Factory, or Orion Mall. This route will benefit Yeshwanthpur railway passengers as well, making it easier for them to reach the railway station from Lakshmi Devi Nagar."

Kumar added, "The proposed routes would not only benefit local passengers but also connect areas such as Nandini Layout, Mahalaxmi Metro, Card Road, Navarang, Dhobi Ghat, and Vijayanagar to Mysore Road TTMC, offering access to the Pink Metro line. Starting these routes, particularly on government holidays, would ensure that transport facilities are available to residents of Lakshmi Devi Nagar and surrounding areas."

With new developments expanding the local population, residents believe that transport every 30 minutes from Lakshmi Devi Nagar to key locations would significantly ease their daily commute. They hope the authorities will consider their request and provide the much-needed last-mile connectivity.

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Uncleared waste
RT Nagar

Waste remains uncleared on 2nd Cross, Dinnur Main Road, RT Nagar.

Encroachment ignored
JP Nagar

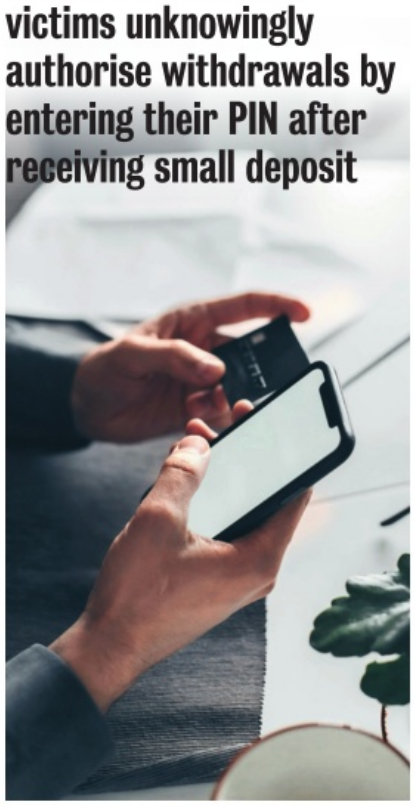
Over 10-ft road encroachment on 26th Main, JP Nagar 1st Phase, ignored by civic agencies.

Bus stand woes
ISRO Layout

The BMTC bus stand in ISRO Layout lacks proper facilities, causing inconvenience to passengers.

New 'jumped deposit' scam targets UPI users

Recent cyber scam preys on UPI users, where victims unknowingly authorise withdrawals by entering their PIN after receiving small deposit



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The latest cyber scam known as the 'Jumped deposit' scam is gaining traction across the country. This fraudulent technique targets individuals through the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) to enable unauthorised withdrawals from victims' bank accounts.

Chetan Anand, National Cyber Security Scholar and Cybercrime Intervention Officer explains, "Unlike phishing scams that ask for your personal information upfront, this scam relies on the victim's action to approve the transaction. By simply entering the correct PIN to check the deposit, the victim unknowingly authorises the fraudulent withdrawal request. This method makes the scam harder to detect because the victim is actively involved in the process."

How the scam works

The scam begins with a seemingly innocent deposit into your bank account. The fraudster sends a small sum, usually between ₹1,000 and ₹5,000, via UPI to the victim's account. This unexpected deposit catches the victim off guard and triggers a notification via SMS, informing them of the balance change.

Out of curiosity, the victim opens their banking app to check the deposit, believing it might be a legitimate refund or reward. To verify the deposit, the victim enters their personal identification number (PIN) in the app. However, by entering the PIN, the victim inadvertently approves the fraudster's withdrawal request. The scammer has already initiated a fraudulent transfer, and once the victim inputs their PIN, the transaction goes through, draining their account. This method is particularly dangerous because the victim is led to believe they are only checking their balance, while the scammer is stealing funds with their approval.

Public advisory: How to protect yourself

Chetan Anand, the cyber security expert has provided an advisory. "The UPI scam called the 'jumped deposit' scam exploits users' trust and curiosity. In this digital era, it is always better to verify and then trust. As a digital trust good practice, people are advised to review their bank accounts for suspicious transactions once in two days," he said.

If you receive an unexpected deposit, experts advise against checking your balance immediately. It is recommended to wait for 30 minutes to allow any fraudulent withdrawal requests to expire, as scammers often rely on swift actions to complete their schemes. In case of uncertainty, users should enter an incorrect PIN first to cancel any unauthorised transaction attempts. Additionally, it is crucial to contact your bank to verify the authenticity of any unrecognised deposits before taking further steps. Authorities also caution against sharing sensitive information such as PINs or OTPs, even if the request appears to come from a bank official, as scammers often impersonate bank employees to steal personal data.

BM WoW Wednesdays
Your Chance to WIN today
Answer this and fill the details below to win passes to a concert by Zubeen at Garuda Mall on December 14
What was the title of Zubeen Garg's first Indipop solo album?
Which BM story of today's issue did you relate to the most?
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Scan this code to follow us on Insta and drop your responses there or whatsapp us at
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Records were broken

KAUSHIK JN

The Army Service Corps Motorcycle Display Team (Tornadoes) achieved an extraordinary feat on Tuesday, setting three new world records in a single day. The event, held to commemorate the 264th Army Service Corps Corps Day, took place at the ASC Centre and College and the Bangalore-Chennai Expressway. All attempts were conducted in accordance with the official guidelines of the Guinness World Records.

Subedar Pradeep SS set a world record for the longest backward ride on a motorcycle, covering 361.56 km. Havildar Manish broke the world record for the longest basic hands-free wheelie, traveling a remarkable 2.349 km and Sepoy Sumit Tomar created a new record for the longest no-hands wheelie, achieving a distance of 1,715.4 metres.

Rise in number of maternal deaths causes alarm

2,079 women died during childbirth in 3 years; Kalaburagi fares worst in this aspect

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In the wake of a series of maternal deaths reported from different parts of the state, alarming statistics from Karnataka's Directorate of Health and Family Welfare Services reveal a significant rise in the number of mothers giving birth under high-risk conditions.

Between 2021-22 and 2023-24, a total of 4.29 lakh women in Karnataka delivered under critical circumstances, with 822 losing their lives during childbirth. Over the last three years, 2,079 maternal deaths have been reported, raising questions about the safety of mothers both during and after childbirth. The data shows that Kalaburagi district, part of the underprivileged Kalyana Karnataka region, recorded the highest number of maternal deaths.

Bowring hospital, Bengaluru (File photo)

Urgent need for action

Despite the presence of anganwadis, ASHA workers, health assistants, and an expanding network of primary health centres, taluk, and district hospitals, the rise in maternal and infant mortality rates signals a grave concern. Shashidhar Kosambe, a member of the State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, stressed the urgent need to prioritise safe deliveries and strengthen medical infrastructure. "Health education must be prioritised, and the government must take these concerns seriously to enhance the healthcare system," he said. Gynecologists have urged the government to take steps for timely hospital deliveries and better health awareness.

822 maternal deaths from 2021-24

According to data procured, maternal health statistics in Karnataka paint a concerning picture, with 822 maternal deaths reported during childbirth between 2021 and 2024. Over the past three years, the state has recorded a total of 2,079 maternal deaths, highlighting significant challenges in ensuring safe deliveries. During the same period, an alarming 4.29 lakh women underwent high-risk deliveries, while 38 lakh pregnant women were identified as suffering from severe anemia. Additionally, 21,132 stillbirths were reported, further emphasising the critical gaps in maternal healthcare.

> **"Combined approach of robust medical interventions and community education is essential to safeguarding the lives of mothers and their newborns** –Health expert

"Kalaburagi Division emerged as a hotspot for maternal deaths, accounting for 502 fatalities in the last three years. Within this, Kalaburagi district alone reported 180 deaths, with 54 maternal deaths recorded in 2021–22. Neighbouring Raichur district reported 50 maternal deaths during the same year, underscoring the dire need for improved healthcare in these regions," said an official.

Experts have identified multiple factors contributing to the rise in maternal mortality. These include an increase in child marriages, premature deliveries, and pregnancies among underage girls. Pre-existing health conditions in mothers, such as hypertension, heart, liver, and kidney issues, further exacerbate the risks. Obesity, infections during childbirth, anemia, and malnutrition also play significant roles. The persistence of home births without proper medical assistance and the lack of regular prenatal check-ups compound the issue.

Minister Lakshmi Hebbalkar assured that the government is taking proactive steps to reduce maternal mortality. "We are taking all necessary measures to prevent such tragedies. Reports of maternal and infant deaths are being thoroughly investigated, and actions are being taken to ensure safer deliveries," she stated.

A health expert said, "The statistics underline the urgent need for a comprehensive strategy to address maternal health. This includes strengthening medical infrastructure, expanding healthcare access, and raising awareness about prenatal care. A combined approach of robust medical interventions and community education is essential to safeguarding the lives of mothers and their newborns in Karnataka."

ISRO's 'well deck' recovery trial of Gaganyaan

ISRO on Tuesday said it carried out 'well deck' recovery trials of the Gaganyaan with the Indian Navy on December 6.

The trials were carried out at Eastern Naval Command using a well deck ship off the coast of Vishakhapatnam, ISRO said in a statement.

The space agency said the well deck in a ship can be flooded with water so that boats, landing crafts, and recovered spacecraft can be taken inside to dock within the ship.

Once the crew module touches down in the sea at the end of the mission, the crew has to be recovered in the minimum possible time and with the least discomfort, it said.

One of the preferred options is to tow the crew module along with the crew inside the well deck of the ship, where the crew can come out comfortably, ISRO explained.

It said that the trials for well deck recovery were carried out using a mass and shape simulated crew module mockup. The sequence of operations for well deck recovery of the crew module was carried out by the Indian Navy and ISRO during the trials. The sequence includes the attachment of the recovery buoy, towing, entering into the well deck ship, positioning of the crew module on the fixture, and draining of the well deck, ISRO said.

"This trial validated the overall sequence of operations and ground fixtures and will help in fine-tuning Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). This trial is part of the series of recovery trials being carried out by the Indian Navy and ISRO to finalise the SOPs for recovery operations for nominal as well as off-nominal conditions," the Indian space agency explained.

Gaganyaan, which is among the projects approved by the Union Cabinet, is India's first human mission.

The Gaganyaan project envisages a demonstration of human spaceflight capability by launching a crew of three members to an orbit of 400 km for a three-day mission and bringing them back safely to Earth by landing in Indian sea waters.

ISRO Chairman S Somanath said in September that this mission will be ready for launch by the end of 2024. **–PTI**

3 weeks on, DNA analysis not out & leopards still in cage

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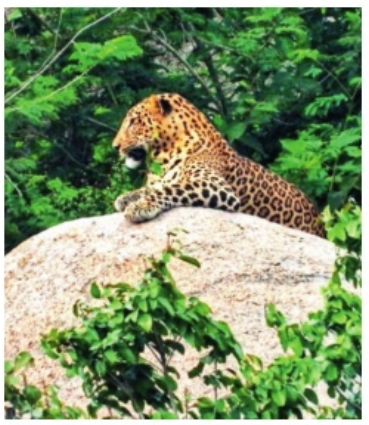
The three leopards caught by the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD) near Shivaganga forest in Nelamangala taluk more than two weeks ago are still in captivity, waiting for the DNA analysis outcome.

According to KFD officials, the DNA samples have been sent to the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) and it will take at least another two weeks before results arrive.

"DNA samples for the analysis have been sent to NCBS and scientists at the institute are working on it. While the analysis could have also been done at the State Forensic Science Laboratory, we preferred NCBS as they will also have wildlife markers available. The analysis will take another two weeks at least," said a senior KFD official.

The big cats were caught over six days, a week after a 56-year-old woman died in a leopard attack in the area. Following the incident, the department laid down cages and camera traps and captured three leopards. To zero in on the leopard involved in the incidents, the department drew blood samples to match with the DNA sample of the big cat found on the woman's body.

Wildlife experts say DNA analysis is a matter of a few hours. The delay in the process points to a lack of basic facilities to solve wildlife-related issues.


Shivaganaga leopard rescued after eight-days of operation

"The case should have been prioritised. We have already captured more than 90 leopards from all across the state and are keeping them captive. Relocation of big cats is not advisable, and we do not have space in zoos across Karnataka to keep them captive. We have leopard and elephant task forces in place, but we have not supplemented with facilities such as rescue centres, DNA analysis, and research," said a wildlife conservationist on condition of anonymity.

Some wildlife conservationists opine that releasing leopards in the wild after keeping them in captivity for more than a month is a risky proposition. Although the big cats are housed at Bannerghatta Biological Park in open enclosures, experts say the animals should be released sooner rather than later.

"We cannot delay the process and land in a situation where we will not be able to release them in the wild. If the cats are in open enclosures and away from people, the chances of release may be better. The need of the hour is wildlife forensic labs and experts," said Ramesh Belagere, a wildlife researcher at the Foundation of Ecology and Education Development.

"The process has taken a long time due to limited facilities in the state to conduct DNA analysis of wildlife. We will take a call on releasing the leopards only after the analysis report has arrived. The decision will be based on the medical report and experts' consultation on the matter," said a KFD official.

SM Krishna: May 1, 1932 - December 10, 2024

SM Krishna: Life & times of Bengaluru's tech pioneer

Karnataka will observe three-day mourning period, paying respects to its former CM, honouring a man who shaped India's Silicon Valley

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Veteran politician and former Chief Minister SM Krishna (aged 92) passed away in the early hours of Tuesday after a prolonged illness. Known for his elegance, intellectual acumen, and leadership, Krishna played a pivotal role as Karnataka's CM, elevating Bengaluru's tech industry to global prominence and establishing it as India's Silicon Valley.

Over a distinguished career spanning decades, Krishna held numerous key positions, including Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker, Deputy Chief Minister, Union Minister for External Affairs, and Governor of Maharashtra. He also served in both houses of Parliament and led the Karnataka Congress as its president during a transformative period.

KAUSHIK JN

SM Krishna's funeral will be held on Wednesday at his birthplace, Somanahalli

Krishna's early life

Born on May 1, 1932, in Somanahalli, Mandya, Krishna's political journey began in 1962 when he won as an independent candidate from the Maddur Assembly constituency, defeating Congress heavyweight KV Shankar Gowda. After a brief association with the Praja Socialist Party, he joined the Congress and rose through the ranks. A graduate of Maharaja's College, Mysuru, Krishna earned a law degree from the Government Law College, Bengaluru, before pursuing higher studies at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and George Washington University in the United States as a Fulbright Scholar. He later served as a professor of international law at Renukacharya Law College in Bengaluru.

Parliamentary journey

Krishna made his debut in Parliament in 1968 as a Socialist MP in the Fourth Lok Sabha. After two terms in the Lok Sabha, he shifted focus to state politics, serving as Minister for Commerce, Industries, and Parliamentary Affairs from 1972 to 1977. He served as Minister of State for Industry (1983-84) and Finance (1984-85) in the Central. He returned to state politics in the late 1980s, becoming the Karnataka Assembly Speaker in 1989 and Dy CM in 1992. As Karnataka's CM from 1999 to 2004, Krishna steered the state through a period of economic and technological growth, earning accolades for his progressive policies.

In subsequent years, he served as the Governor of Maharashtra (2004-2008) and as the Union Minister of External Affairs (2009-2012) in the Manmohan Singh-led government. In 2017, Krishna joined the BJP, marking the end of a nearly five-decade-long association with the Congress. He retired from active politics in January 2023. Krishna is survived by his wife, Prema Krishna, and two daughters, Malavika Krishna and Shambhavi Krishna.

Holiday for schools today

The State government has declared a three-day mourning period across the state following SM Krishna's passing. During this period, public entertainment events will be prohibited as a mark of respect. The Tricolour will be flown at half-mast across the state until Thursday. His funeral, to be conducted with full state honours, is scheduled for Wednesday at his birthplace, Somanahalli. Additionally, the state government has declared Wednesday as a holiday for all schools, colleges, and government offices in Karnataka to pay tribute to the late leader.

Interfaith groups stand with Palestinians, demand that India sever ties with Israel

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Around 200 people from all faiths gathered at Freedom Park on Tuesday, recited their prayers for Palestinians and demanded action from the Indian government to cut ties with Israel. In a program called 'Bridging Faiths for Palestine' organised by the coalition Bengaluru for Justice and Peace, leaders and followers of Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sufism, and Judaism, along with atheists came together to stand in solidarity with Palestine and to mark International Human Rights Day.

This event is a part of a longer nationwide campaign demanding the Parliament take action in the ongoing Winter Session to impose an arms embargo on Israel and suspend all ties. The speakers addressed the recent admission of Union Minister S Jaishankar that it is in the national interest of India to keep sending arms to Israel. Speakers emphasised that it is our duty to abide by international laws and our constitutional values and stand with the people of Palestine.

The organisers noted that the meet was arranged in order to

Leaders & followers of multiple faiths gathered at Freedom Park on Tuesday

shatter a common myth of the Palestinian struggle. While it is often termed as a "religious war between Muslims and Jews," the truth is that multi-faith native people have been oppressed under the Israeli regime for almost eight decades, they said.

"In India, mainstream media too has promoted this misnomer, portraying the solidarity movements with Palestinians as a 'Muslim issue' or an 'Arab world issue.' Several scholars have studied and written about the close ideological ties between Hindutva and Zionism, and Hindutva groups have also publicly shown their support for Israel in the last year. However, criticising the Israeli government for its endless attack on Palestine, and now expanded to Lebanon, Syria, Iran, and Jordan, is a moral obligation for everyone who is concerned with justice and peace for colonised people. The International Court of Justice, the UN Special Rapporteur for Palestine and various UN bodies have termed Israel's attack on Gaza as a genocide and held that their occupation in Palestinian territories is illegal," they added.

Protestant leaders Reverend Vinayraj, a Dalit pastor from the Marottamma church, Rev Chitra, Rev Sophy and Rev Immanuel, addressed the audience, emphasising that the cause of Palestinian liberation is an integral part of their faith. Shia scholars Moulana Qaim Abbas, from Masjid al Qaim, Neelsandra, and Maulana Ali Baqar, an Indian Lebanese, spoke about how the attack on Palestinians is an attack on humanity itself. Marcy Newman, a Jewish educator recited a Hebrew prayer for Gaza and spoke about Jewish movements across the world advocating against the Israeli regime. Guru Basawa explained the values within the Lingayat culture which ties deeply with justice, peace and dignity, and spoke against the human rights violations of the Israeli regime.

> **"Criticising Israeli govt for its endless attack on Palestine is moral obligation for all who are concerned with justice & peace for colonised** –Organisers

Bhante Tashi, a Buddhist monk and transgender person, explained how justice for Palestinians and the end of the Israel-led genocide is a matter concerning their faith, especially as a queer person. Vali Ba, a Sufi saint, said that one should stay in unflinching solidarity with the Palestinian people, as Indians who fought British imperialism. Maulana Wahid, Secretary, Jamat-e-Islami Hind, addressed that the Palestinians historic struggle against Israeli atrocities, occupation and ethnic cleansing must be met with a united voice as human beings for the values in international laws.

A pledge was taken by the attendees to firmly stand with the Palestinians and their struggle for equal rights, dignity and liberation.

IN BRIEF

HC upholds KSLU's evaluation standards

The Karnataka High Court has rejected an appeal from a law student who challenged a single judge's order dismissing his petition regarding Karnataka State Law University's (KSLU) re-evaluation standards.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind dismissed AJ James's appeal, stating, "Learned Single Judge's decision is in accordance with the legal framework that grants academic institutions the autonomy to regulate their examination and evaluation processes. The University has adhered to its prescribed revaluation and challenge valuation procedures. Therefore, judicial intervention is not warranted."

James enrolled in a three-year LLB programme at Rajiv Gandhi College of Law in 2016, affiliated with KSLU, Hubballi. He contested the evaluators' qualifications and argued that their medium of education affected fair assessment. He highlighted that variations exceeding 15% to 20% during re-evaluation indicated the need to review evaluation schemes. KSLU contested the plea, stating that re-evaluation benefits were already provided according to assessment, and regulations did not allow for additional evaluations. —BMB

The importance of Cantonment Railway Station

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

argue that if elected representatives had inspected the station and discussed the development plans with officials, the traditional building could have been preserved.

Railway activist voices concerns

Speaking about the development, railway activist and founder of Citizen for Citizen (C4C), Rajkumar Dugar, questioned the need for such extensive spending on station infrastructure. "Spending large sums of money to build the station will not benefit railway passengers much. Instead, expanding the railway tracks would better serve the public.

If the number of trains is increased, it would be much more convenient for passengers. Currently, all trains are overcrowded, with people squeezed in like sardines in a can.

The railway department is spending money on unnecessary developments instead of addressing what passengers truly need," he said.

Station's significance

Bengaluru Cantonment Railway Station, established 153 years ago, is widely regarded as the city's first railway station.

On August 1, 1864, the first engine departed from this station for Jolarpettai in Tamil Nadu. In 1882, the state railway extended the connection between Mysore and Bengaluru through a meter gauge route. That same year, the Madras Railway Company connected the station to the Bengaluru City Railway Station. From there, five routes were created towards Guntakal, Mysuru, and Tumakuru.

In 1944, following the nationalisation of railway companies, the station came under government control. After India's independence, when railway zones were restructured, it became part of the Southern Railway zone. By April 1, 2003, the station became part of the newly formed South-Western Railway zone.

Mahatma Gandhi visited the station on November 11, 1920, for a large gathering near the station during his second visit to Bengaluru. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, India's first President, also visited the station during his travels.

Renovation plans

The station is set to undergo major renovations as part of a ₹480-crore development plan launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on June 20, 2022. By October 2025, the station will offer world-class passenger facilities and will serve as one of the three major stations in Bengaluru, providing both long-distance and suburban train services.

400+ tree detail responses on dashboard

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this issue will not crop up," added Swamy.

Good response

A couple of weeks ago, BBMP invited suggestions from citizens on the ongoing tree census through the 'Tree Census Dashboard' (https://kgis.ksrsac.in/test/). The dashboard was created to offer key statistics and insights, including species, location, condition, and natural resource data for nearly three lakh trees that have been enumerated under the ongoing census.

Forest department officials say they have received more than 400 responses and feedback so far. The platform enables citizens to review vital information and provide constructive feedback on the census process.

"The idea behind the dashboard was to seek counsel from citizens to improve the census process. We have received 435 responses from citizens on various aspects of the census process. Some of the responses are about making the dashboard user-friendly and we are incorporating those changes. We will soon upload a short video guiding citizens through the dashboard," said Swamy.

Act on suggestions

However, city-based tree activists say the department should take a pause and act upon the suggestions and responses that citizens have provided.

"Tree IDs being generated are incoherent; trees being tagged in the area by the BBMP do not have consecutive number labels. "Two trees next to each other are four numbers apart. BBMP should work on the issue and ensure trees are allotted consecutive numbers. One of the objectives of the census is to empower citizens to report illegal tree felling. But this will not be possible if BBMP continues with the current numbering system. I have flagged this issue not just through the dashboard, but also through a written complaint filed in the forest department's office," said Dattatreya Devare, trustee, Bangalore Environment Trust.

Update on census

BBMP started the census process in February this year with a fund allocation of a little over Rs 3.74 crore. The census was expected to be over by August, which was then moved to November but has been delayed as the civic agency decided to cancel tenders of three zones due to slow progress made by the contractor. As per the officials, a fresh tender for the three zones - Mahadevapura, Dasarahalli, and Yelahanka – has already been floated.

"We have floated the tender and will soon select a contractor to carry out the process in these three zones. We are still aiming at March 2025 for the project to be completed," added Swamy.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Ashwini Shivaji Nangare, W/o. Rakesh Subhas Rajaguri, Aged about 39 years, residing at B501, Block B, Manthri Alpyne, Subramaniyam Road, Bharath Housing Society, Subramanyapura, Bangalore 560061, I have chanded my name to ASHWINI RAKESH RAJAGURI vide affidavit dated:07.12.2024 before notary S R Thulasikrishna, Bangalore

I, Christuraj Periyanayagam s/o Periyanayagam , R/at # 3, 4th Cross, near Sardhana Gas Godown, Vidyapeeta Layout, Bengaluru 560028 have changed my name to Christu Raj for all purposes

I Shaik Alim Basha S/o Late Basha D/no 13 Q no 4th Street Mackan Road Cross Bharthi Nagar Police Station Bangalore 560001 have changed my name to Shaik Aleem Basha.

I, Saakshi Gangal R/o No.43, 3rd cross, 4th main, Vivekanandanagar, Chikkathogur E-city, Bengaluru 560100 have changed my name to Saakshi Deepak Gangal Affidavit Dt.10/12/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Dinesh Singh Shyam Singh Rawat S/o Shyam Singh Dhusad R/o D 1708, Purva Westend, Kudlu Gate, Gb Playa, Bengaluru-560068 have Changed my name to Dinesh Singh Rawat for all the purposes.

I, Ramya Vivek W/o Vivek Hoskote Venkatesh R/o No 215, 10th Cross, 3rd Main, Padmanabha Nagar, Bsk 2nd Stage, B'luru 560070, Have Changed My Name to Ramya Rajanna For All Purposes.

I, Mamatha W/O Rajesh R/O No 6,Prem Kunj, 1St Main Rd, 1st Cross, Widia Layout, Chandra Layout Main Road, Vijayanagar,B'luru 560040 have changed my name to Mamatha Devi For All Purposes.

I, Manikanta Devadass S/o J Devadass R/o #30, Rajarajeshwari Street, Ganapathipura, Kanakapura Rd, B'luru 560062 have changed my name to Manikantan Devadas For All Purposes.

I, Puneeth Virupaksha R/o No.19, 7th main, Toll gate, Mysuru road, Bengaluru 560026 have changed my name to Punith Virupaksha Affidavit Dt.10/12/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Zubeda w/o Srinivas T N R/O No 546/2 Vidya Sagara ,Behind Govt School ,Sarai Palya ,A C Post Bangalore - 560045 , Karnataka have changed My name to Asha

I, Anitha Joseph, R/a. # 629, 17th "A" Main, 6th Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru-560095, have changed my name to Mary Magdlene Elizier for future purpose

I, Archana Seetharam Shetty W/o Prabhat Kumar R/o No.201/A Gangothri Elegance, Bannergatta road, Gottigere, Bengaluru 560083 have changed my name to ARCHANA SHETTY affidavit Dt.05/12/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Santhosh Kumar G.R S/o G.V Govindaraju, R/at No.19, 4th Cross, LG Enclave layout, Mallapura road, Near Civil Court, Nelamangala, Bangalore Rural-562123 have changed my name to SANTOSH KUMAR G.R, vide affidavit dt: 10.12.2024 Notary Devaraja E, Bangalore.

I, Mahammad s/o puttumonu R/O No 546/2 Vidya Sagara ,Behind Govt School ,Sarai Palya ,A C Post Bangalore - 560045 , Karnataka have changed My name to Srinivas T N

I Falak Naz D/O, Mohammed Sanaulla Khan R/o No 54/2 Near Masjid Meeraj Pragathipura Umar Bagh Layout Banashankari Bangalore 560070 have changed my name to Falak Naaz.

I, Srinivasa Murthy S/o, Ramakrishnachar R/o Kalidasa Nagara Main Road Opp Prabhu Agencies Sira Tumkur 572137 have changed my name to Sira Ramakrishnachar Srinivasamurthy for all purposes.

ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

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ನಂ.415/3, "ಎಫ್" ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ಸಹಕಾರನಗರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560092.
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ಮಾನ್ಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ಸಹಕಾರ ಸಂಘದ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.12.2024 ರ ಭಾನುವಾರದಂದು ಸಂಘದ ಕಛೇರಿ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಜರುಗಿಸಲು ಸಹಕಾರ ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಿಂದ ನೇಮಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಚುನಾವಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯವರಿಂದ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ಪ್ರಕಟವಾಗಿದ್ದು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಂಚೆಯ (ಬಲ್ಕ್ ಪೋಸ್ಟ್) ಮೂಲಕ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿಕೊಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸದಸ್ಯರುಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಘದ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸ ಬೇಕಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/–
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Dec: 17, 20*, 22, 25, Mar: 1, 2*, 10, 20, 20* 30*

GUJARATH RAJASTHAN* 12/16*/25
Dec: 23, Jan: 13, 17*, 22, 27 31* Feb: 5, 10, 14*, 19, 24, 28, 28*

UJJAIN OMKARESHWAR MAHAKALESHWAR 15/8* DAYS
Jan: 3*, 14*, 17, 17*, 21*, 28* Feb: 4, 4*, 11

KASHMIR WITH TULIP GARDEN 6 DAYS
Mar: 24, 26, 29, 31 Apr: 3, 5, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 20

AMRITSAR VAISHNODEVI SRINAGAR 16 DAYS
Mar: 13, 18, 25, 29 Apr: 6, 11, 18, 23, 30, May: 6, 12, 18

 # Jeremy is in Star Warsverse
Actor Jeremy Allen White, who is best known for his role in 'The Bear' has joined the cast of the Star Wars film 'The Mandalorian & Grogu'

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Trailer unveiled

The trailer of Dasarahalli was unveiled by farmers and ex-servicemen at a function at Chamundeshwari Studios on Monday. Dharma Keerthiraj plays the lead in the film helmed by MR Srinivas. The trailer showcased Dharma Keerthiraj, who is known as a chocolate hero, in a rugged avatar. Thriller Manju has worked as a stunt master for this movie while P Umesh has bankrolled it.

"Dasarahalli highlights the importance of fathers and what happens to children if they do not have father's support and guidance. The movie revolves around a village – Dasarahalli – and the lifestyle of its inhabitants," said Srinivas. Appreciating producer Umesh and Srinivas for inviting farmers and ex-servicemen to the function, senior actor Umesh said that he was very happy to see them on the stage. Dharma said that he had known producer Umesh for quite a long time.

Rakshasa soon

Prajwal Devaraj-starrer Rakshasa, billed as the first time-loop horror movie in the country, is ready for release. The post-production work of the movie is over and it has got a UA certificate. The movie is helmed by Lohith H who had directed the movies Mummy Save Me, Devaki, and Mafia.

"Rakshasa is my fourth movie as a director and second with Prajwal Devaraj. It is the first of its kind movie in the country as it is a unique concept. I narrated the script to Prajwal Devaraj during the shooting of Mafia which is scheduled for release shortly. Prajwal agreed to play the lead immediately," says Lohith.

The movie was shot for 55 days in Rameshwaram, Bengaluru, and Ramoji Film City. "The movie begins and ends at Rameshwaram. The script demands different locations. A majority of the shooting was held at Ramoji Film City where we put up a set. Prajwal plays Satya, an ex-cop in the movie. He has to save his daughter from a demon called Brahmarakshasa. Child artist Baby Arna Rathod has acted well," the director said.

He said the teaser of the movie, unveiled by Priyanka Upendra and Prithvi Ambaar in August, has created a buzz among moviegoers.

HIGH PRAISE

Rashmika is gung-ho about Varun Dhawan, Keethy Suresh's upcoming film

The trailer for Varun Dhawan's film 'Baby John' has been released and is receiving an enthusiastic response from fans and celebrities alike, including Rashmika Mandanna, who praised Keerthy Suresh and the cast for their performances.

Taking to her Instagram story, Rashmika Mandanna shared the trailer of 'Baby John' and wrote, "@varundvn masssss maxxxx! Love itttt!...And damn the CAME0000! @keerthysureshofficial You are toooo pretty... Gwamiganabbi...full excitement happening...All the bestest guys! Gatlee47 sir garuuu A A....Sending you all- all the love and best wishes."In the trailer, Varun appears in a new role, while Jackie Shroff plays the villain. The trailer has a strong mass appeal and has excited fans for its upcoming release in theaters. Varun shared the trailer, saying, "Action, fire, and unstoppable GOOD VIBES! Baby John brings it all! #BabyJohnTrailer out now!" The first song from the film, "Nain Matakka," became a hit on social media after its release on November 25. The second song, "Pikley Pom," was released just three days ago and is quickly going viral, showcasing Varun Dhawan as he embraces his fun "dad-girl" vibes alongside child artist Zara Zyanna.

'Baby John', directed by Kalees and co-written by Atlee, Kalees, and Sumit Arora, is an adaptation of Atlee's 2016 Tamil film 'Theri'. Varun stars in the lead role, while Keerthy Suresh makes her Bollywood debut. The film is set to be released on December 25, 2024. —ETimes

Glam version

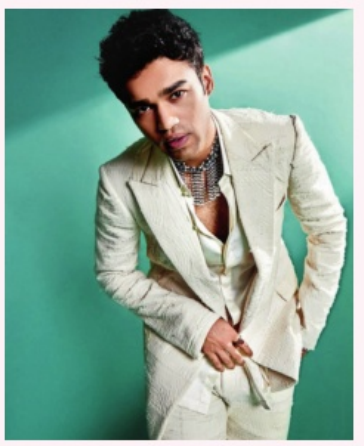
After tying the knot in a traditional ceremony on December 4, Naga Chaitanya and wife Sobhita Dhulipala switched things up a bit and tapped into their glamorous side as wedding celebrations continued with a glitzy cocktail party.

Designer Tarun Tahiliani gave fans a sneak peek into the celebrations by sharing a handful of photos of the blushing bride, looking like a million bucks in her stunning sequin ensemble. While Sobhita stuck to sarees for her traditional pre-wedding ceremonies, she tapped into her fashionable side to wear a daring retro-inspired golden gown.

Sobhita chose a signature sculpted draped gown for the occasion, paired with statement jewellery and a designer bag. She showed off the statement jewellery with her plunging neckline and her hair tied in an elegant up-do. She also showed off the risque gown by giving fans a good look at the cut-out back.

— ETimes

In dad's footsteps



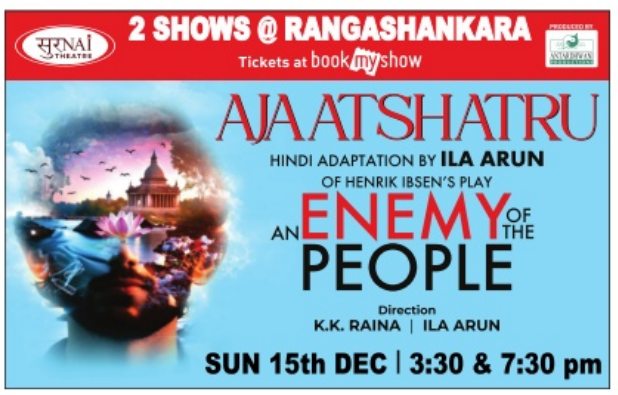
Actor Babil Khan cemented his father's legacy as his film 'Log Out' was screened at the 24th edition of the River to River Indian Film Festival in Florence, Italy, ten years after his father Irrfan's film 'Qissa' was screened at the festival.

On December 7, 2014, Irrfan Khan graced the 14th River to River Indian Film Festival in Florence, Italy, as a special guest. The festival showcased his critically acclaimed film Qissa, directed by Anup Singh, etching his legacy into its annals.

In 'Log Out', Babil portrays a modern-day influencer grappling with the duality of digital fame. As his character ascends to the heights of virtual success, he faces the darker consequences of a life shaped by the online world. The film's timely themes and thought-provoking narrative have captivated both audiences and critics, solidifying Babil's emergence as a promising talent in Indian cinema.

At the premiere of the film, Babil expressed the film's essence, saying, "I'll just tell you what the film is about. Today in our generation, in the age of social media, the motive of creation changes to complete validation rather than creation itself, and that's what it does to a human being. This film is about that".

"The film is about what happens when our values become absorbed by superficial means of validation for our disillusioned self-worth, when all of our creation stems from that, the story holds itself in our generation's status quo gripping itself to social media..." — IANS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AJATSHATRU
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OF HENRIK IBSEN'S PLAY
AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE
Direction
K.K. RAINA | ILA ARUN
SUN 15th DEC | 3:30 & 7:30 pm

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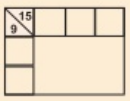
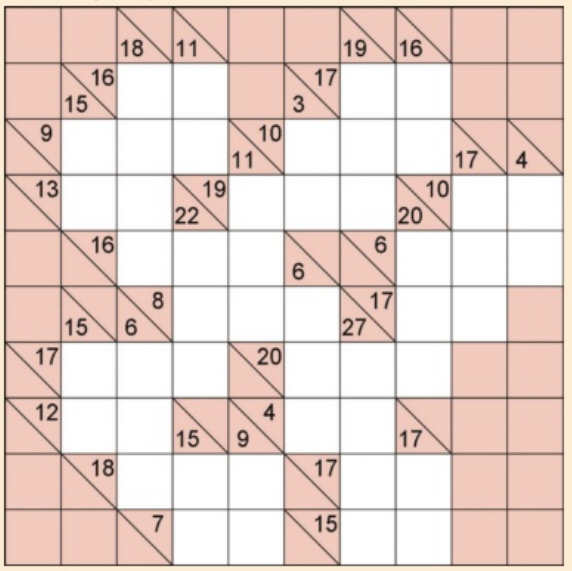
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

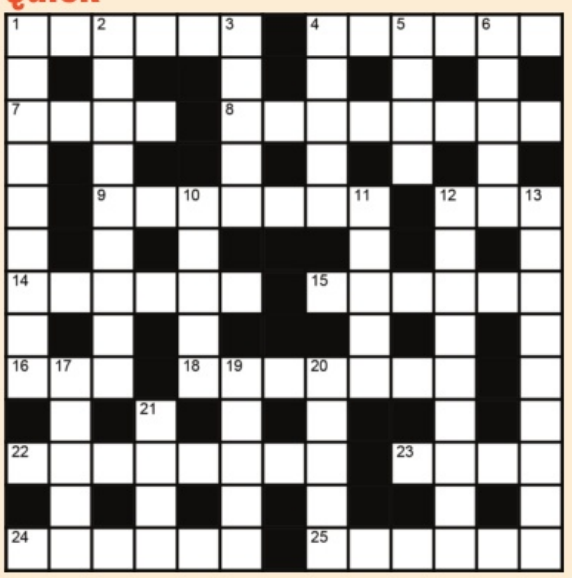


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Study of plants (6)
4 Confirm or accept by formal consent (6)
7 Excursion (4)
8 Driving (8)
9 West Indian song (7)
12 Kind (3)
14 Useless or vain (6)
15 Leading commodity (6)
16 Affirmative (3)
18 Surprised by Joy author (1,1,5)
22 Murder of a king (8)
23 Pavement edging (4)
24 So long, farewell! (3,3)
25 Reliable (6)

DOWN

1 Bannerghatta National Park is home to India's first ____ enclosure (9)
2 Shortens by cutting (9)
3 Delicious (5)
4 Religious practices (5)
5 Track for horse racing (4)
6 Last (5)
10 Fragrant shrub (5)
11 Being pulled (2,3)
12 Pretenders (9)
13 Don't allow to come close, in a way? (4,2,3)
17 Former Arsenal head coach Unai ___ (5)
19 Gooey stuff (5)
20 Upright (5)
21 Amitabh Bachchan of course (3,1)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: T EQUALS G

BOHQQEAI PIF PAFJIO MYZITZIT OE EIJ'B EXZIZEI ZB OVJ QJBO XAEEK EK BOHXZFZOW.

Linemaro

I think you are suffering from a lack of vitamin Me

Mindchow

For most of history, Anonymous was a woman

Joke of the day

Call to players from Bill Peterson, a Florida State football coach: "You guys line up alphabetically by height.., and, You guys pair up in groups of three, and then line up in a circle"

Loop

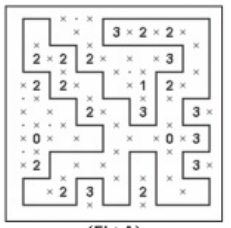
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

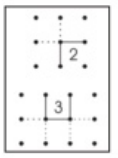
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

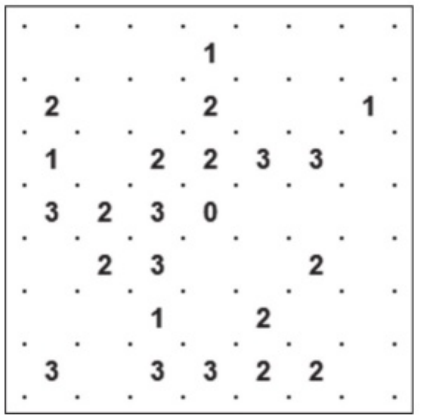
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



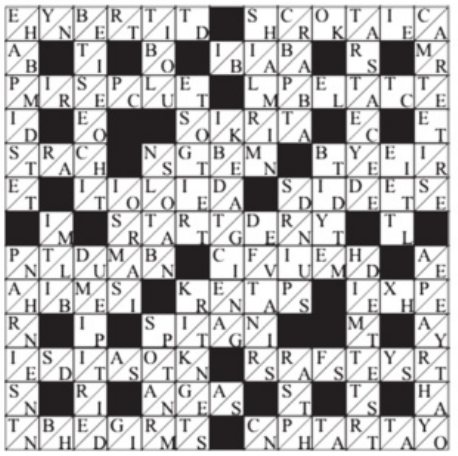
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2 P	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

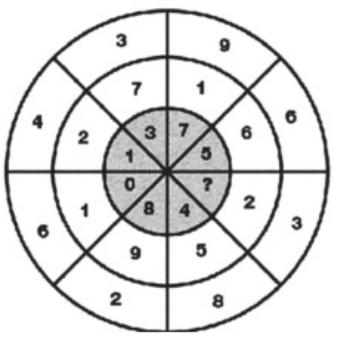
1 A sped; 6 Racer; 7 Ligan; 8 Easel; 9 Lamps

DOWN

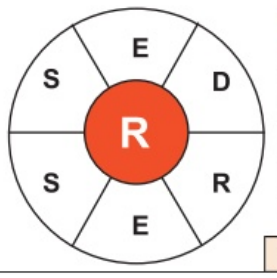
1 Claps; 2 A leap; 3 La rag; 4 Dimes; 5 Sneer

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

1				5				3
		9				7		
5			6	9	1			2
	3			6			5	
6		1	9		2	4		7
	4			7			8	
4			5	3	6			1
		6				5		
2				4				8

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 6

2 5 7 8

Medium = 39

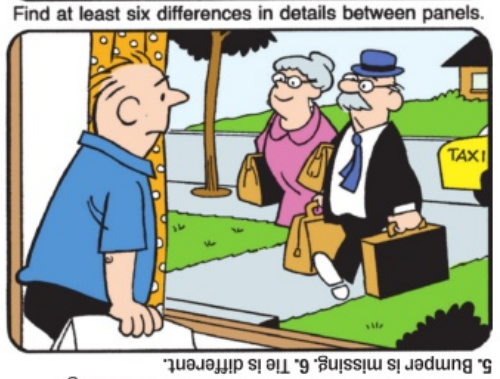
1 4 5 7

Hard = 18

8 9 5 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



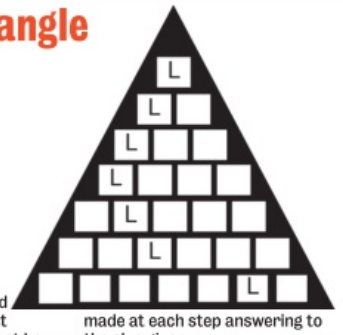
Differences: 1. Suitcase is larger. 2. Nose is different. 3. Woman's hair is different. 4. Foot is not showing. 5. Bumper is missing. 6. Tie is different.

Riddler

If WONDER becomes NOW, ROOM becomes OR, what does RETALIATES become when that same transformation is applied?

Alpha triangle

1 The 12th letter
2 'Behold!'
3 Toss
4 Earring site
5 Sphere
6 Bind morally
7 Dishonourable

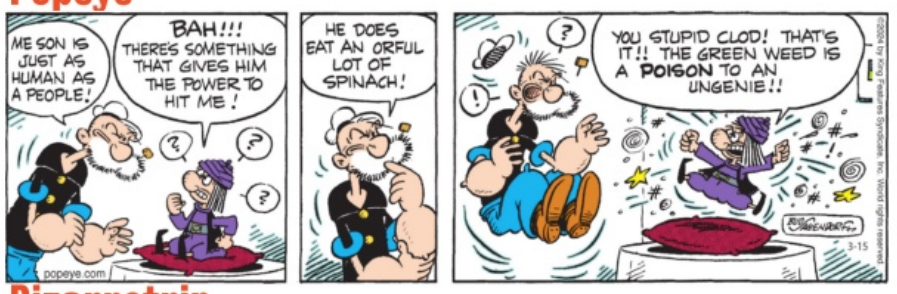


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

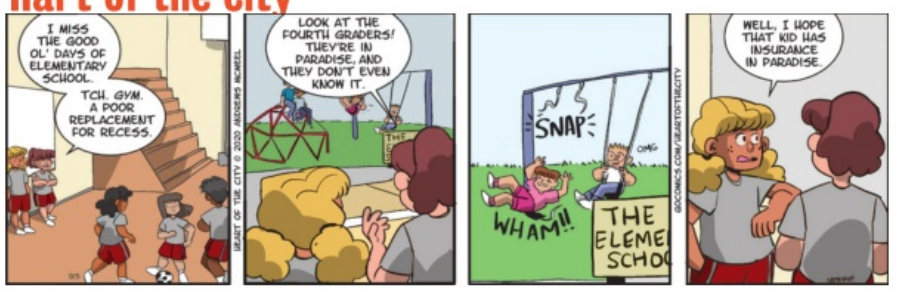
Popeye


ME SON IS JUST AS HUMAN AS A PEOPLE!
BAH!!! THERES SOMETHING THAT GIVES HIM THE POWER TO HIT ME!
HE DOES EAT AN ORFUL LOT OF SPINACH!
YOU STUPID CLOD! THAT'S IT!! THE GREEN WEED IS A POISON TO AN UNGENIE!!
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

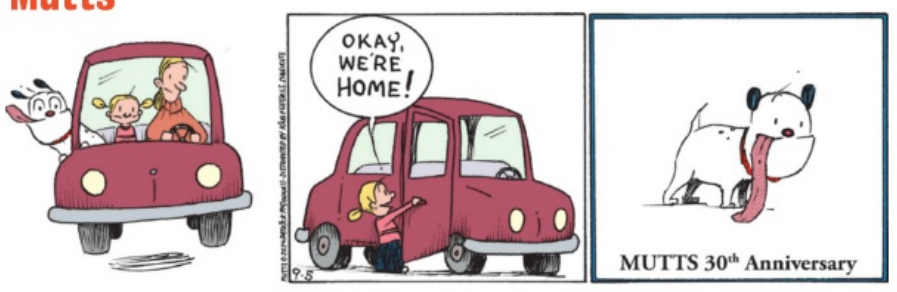
Hart of the city


I MISS THE GOOD OL' DAYS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
TCH. GYM. A POOR REPLACEMENT FOR RECESS.
LOOK AT THE FOURTH GRADERS! THEY'RE IN PARADISE, AND THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW IT.
SNAP!
WHAM!!
WELL, I HOPE THAT KID HAS INSURANCE IN PARADISE.

Crankshaft

The Village Bookshelf
WELL, IF IT ISN'T SKIP RAWLINGS... THE PUBLISHER-EDITOR-REPORTER FOR THE CENTERVILLE SENTINEL!
LOOKING FOR A COZY MYSTERY, ARE WE?
ACTUALLY, I'M HERE ABOUT A REAL-LIFE CRIME!
tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon. You may feel healthy, and chronic health issues could be resolved. Children's health may also improve. Stuck money might be recovered, and you could repay your debts.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, the moon brings you peace of mind. You may feel decisive and ready to seize opportunities without hesitation. Past karma could guide you through challenges and help you choose the right path. Lovebirds may enjoy happy moments together, and job seekers may secure a suitable position with the help of friends.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you might feel dull and detached from your responsibilities, which could upset you. Unfulfilled commitments may affect your prestige. Arrogance might negatively impact both your professional and domestic life. A lack of confidence could hinder your creativity at work.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you are full of enthusiasm and highly focused on your goals. Achieving targets may come easily. Short work-related trips could prove beneficial in the near future. Subordinates might assist in completing important projects, although disputes with siblings could arise.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, the moon blesses you with opportunities to invest more in your family business, which could grow significantly in the future. You may receive rewards for your social contributions and hear good news within the family, creating a joyful atmosphere. Enjoying delicious food is also on the cards.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may feel happy and healthy, which boosts your inner strength and confidence. Your clear and organised mindset could help you handle messy tasks efficiently. Social prestige may increase, and with your good karma, destiny might support you in initiating innovative tasks.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may feel unhappy and disappointed. Controlling arrogance is crucial, as harsh words might lead to losses or strained relationships. Avoid long trips, rush driving, and venturing near oceans or bay areas for safety.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may experience peace of mind. Your earnings might improve your financial health. Romantic moments with your spouse could strengthen family harmony, and singles might find a suitable match. At work, ample opportunities and noticeable progress are expected.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, your strong professional network may help you execute plans effectively. Hard work might result in securing a big order. Harmony with your spouse could enhance domestic life, and your boss might acknowledge and appreciate your efforts.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, the blessings of the moon may help you regain control over previous challenges. Pending tasks might resume, and your hard work could bring rewards. Gains in business are likely, to boost financial health. An unexpected opportunity could arise, potentially leading to overseas travel.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you might feel unwell, which could affect both your professional and personal life. Concerns about your spouse's health might upset you. Patience is essential, as it may be tested repeatedly. Avoid new business investments to prevent losses. Students should focus on hard work and steer clear of distractions.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the Moon, enabling you to make quick decisions on the professional front. New business opportunities might arise, boosting your confidence. Collaborative innovation with your business partner could lead to significant growth in the near future.

KIDZONE

Anjanaya, 12 years, Govt Higher Primary School

Kaveri Sriram, 10 years, Valistus International Schoool

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
2√(160-√(600/5)) =
2√(160-√100) =
2√(160/10) =
2√16 =
2(4) = 8

BULL'S EYE
deer, dress, DRESSER, erred, REDRESS, reed, seer

STRIKE OUT

H	Y	B	R	I	D	S	C	O	T	I	A			
A	I	O	B	A	A	R	M							
M	I	S	C	U	E	L	P	L	A	T	E			
T	A	C	S	T	E	M		B	E	E	R			
E	T	I	L	E	D	S	I	D	E	S				
M	S	A	R	G	E	N	T	L						
P	L	U	M	B	I	V	I	E	D	A				
A	I	M	S	K	N	A	P	E	X	P				
R	P	S	I	G	N	T	A							
N	R	A	G	S	S	H								
E	D	I	S	O	N	S	A	F	E	S	T			
R	E	G	I	C	I	D	E	K	E	R	B			
M	B	L	R	T	T									
Y	E	S	C	S	L	E	W	I	S	A				
L	E	A	O	P										
F	U	T	I	L	E	S	T	A	P	L	E			
R	A	I	N	M	E									
E	C	A	L	Y	P	S	O	I	L	K				
T	O	U	R	M	O	T	O	R	I	N	G			
U	R	U	I	I	U									
B	O	T	A	N	Y	R	A	T	I	F	Y			

FAST FIVE

S	P	A	D	E
C	A	R	E	R
A	L	G	I	N
L	E	A	S	E
P	A	L	M	S

RIDDLER
LATER. Take the first half of each word and flip it to produce the result.

QUICK
1. Each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 to 9 without repetition.
2. In each slice of the circle, the difference between the outer and middle numbers is written in the inner segment of the opposite slice.

QUOTE UNCODE
Stubborn and ardent clinging to one's opinion is the best proof of stupidity.

MENSA PUZZLE
Oblige, Ignoble, Globe, Lobe, L, Lo, Lob,
Easy
5 × 7 − 8 + 7 = 6
Medium
5 × 7 + 4 × 1 = 39
Hard
9 + 8 + 6 − 5 = 18

GO FIGURE

ALPHA TRIANGLE

1	2	4	8	5	7	6	9	3
8	6	9	4	2	3	7	1	5
5	7	3	6	9	1	8	4	2
9	4	2	3	7	5	1	8	6
6	5	1	9	8	2	4	3	7
7	3	8	1	6	4	2	5	9
4	8	7	5	3	6	9	2	1
3	9	6	2	1	8	5	7	4
2	1	5	7	4	9	3	6	8

SUDOKU

LOOP

KAKURO

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